IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before the first line, insert the sentence:

This application is a division of U.S. Application No. 10/191,475, filed July 10, 2002, which is a division of U.S. Application No. 09/386,359, filed August 31, 1999, which issued as U.S. Patent 6,454,400 on September 24, 2002.

The six paragraphs beginning at line 13 of page 28 through line 4 of page 29 have been amended as follows:

Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view showing the bottom of the ink tank 7 cut along a line ~~A-A'~~ VI-VI in Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional view of a prism 180 cut along a line ~~B-B'~~ VII-VII in Fig. 6;

Fig. 8 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~C-C'~~ VIII-VIII in Fig. 6;

Fig. 9 is an explanatory view showing the positional relation between a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along the line ~~C-C'~~ VIII-VIII in Fig. 6 and an optical unit 14;

Fig. 10 is an explanatory view showing the positional relation between a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along the line ~~B-B'~~ VII-VII in Fig. 6 and a light emitting device 15 of the optical unit 14;

The three paragraphs beginning at line 19 of page 29 through line 24 of page 29 have been amended as follows:

Fig. 16 is a cross-sectional view showing the bottom of the ink tank 7 cut along a line ~~A-A'~~ XVI-XVI in Fig. 15;

Fig. 17 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along the line ~~B-B'~~ VII-VII in Fig. 6;

Fig. 18 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along the line ~~C-C'~~ VIII-VIII in Fig. 6;

The paragraph beginning at line 2 of page 30 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 20 is a top ~~plan view~~ cross-sectional view along line XX-XX in Fig. 19, of the carriage 2 carrying six ink tanks 7C', 7M', 7Y', 7LC', 7LM' and 7Bk' having the same structure of the ink tank 7' in Fig. 19, and showing the positional relation between these ink tanks and the optical unit 14;

The seven paragraphs beginning at line 10 of page 30 through line 5 of page 31 have been amended as follows:

Fig. 22 is a cross-sectional view of the bottom of the ink tank 7 cut along a line ~~A-A'~~ XXII-XXII in Fig. 21;

Fig. 23 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~B-B'~~ XXIII-XXIII in Fig. 22 and its peripheral portion;

Fig. 24 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~C-C'~~ XXIV-XXIV in Fig. 22 and its peripheral portion;

Fig. 25 is a cross-sectional view showing the bottom of the ink tank 7, having the prism according to a modification of the second embodiment, cut along the line ~~A-A'~~ XXII-XXII in Fig. 21;

Fig. 26 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~B2-B2'~~ XXVI-XXVI in Fig. 25 and its peripheral portion;

Fig. 27 is a cross-sectional view showing the bottom of the ink tank 7, having the prism according to another modification of the second embodiment, cut along the line ~~A-A'~~ XXII-XXII in Fig. 21;

Fig. 28 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~B3-B3'~~ XXVIII-XXVIII in Fig. 27 and its peripheral portion;

The two paragraphs beginning at line 23 of page 44 through line 10 of page 45 have been amended as follows:

Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view showing the bottom of the ink tank 7 cut along a line ~~A-A'~~ VI-VI in Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~B-B'~~ VII-VII in Fig. 6. Fig. 8 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~C-C'~~ VIII-VIII in Fig. 6.

As it is understood from these figures, the prism 180 cut along the line ~~B-B'~~ VI-VI in Fig. 6 has a rectangular cross section, and the prism 180 cut along the line ~~C-C'~~ VIII-VIII in Fig. 6 has a right isosceles triangle cross section. Further, as it is understood from Figs. 7 and 8, the bottom of the prism 180 is integrally molded with the bottom surface of the ink tank. Further, the prism 180 has slopes mirror-processed for excellently reflecting light incident from the light emitting device 15.

The paragraph beginning at line 16 of page 45 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 9 is an explanatory view showing the positional relation between~a cross-sectional view of the prism cut along the line ~~C-C'~~ VIII-VIII in Fig. 6 and the optical unit 14.

The paragraph beginning at line 9 of page 46 has been amended as follows:

Figs. 10 and 11 are explanatory views showing the positional relation between a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along the line ~~B-B'~~ VII-VII in Fig. 6 and the light emitting device 15 of the optical unit 14.

The paragraph beginning at line 5 of page 47 has been amended as follows:

In the present embodiment, as the dimensions of the prism 180, the length (a) of the base of the right isosceles triangular cross section cut along the line ~~C-C'~~ VII-VII is 6.4 mm, and the length (b) of the rectangular cross section cut along the line ~~B-B'~~ VI-VI is 7.0 mm.

The paragraph beginning at line 21 of page 52 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 16 is a cross-sectional view showing the bottom of the ink tank 7 cut along a line ~~A-A'~~ XVI-XVI in Fig. 15.

The paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 53 through line 3 of page 54 has been amended as follows:

Note that Fig. 17 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along the line ~~B-B'~~ VII-VII in Fig. 6. Fig. 18 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along the line ~~C-C'~~ VIII-VIII in Fig. 6.

The paragraph beginning at line 6 of page 55 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 20 is a top ~~plan view~~ cross-sectional view along the line XX-XX in Fig. 19, of the carriage carrying six ink tanks 7C', 7M', 7Y', 7LC', 7LM' and 7Bk' having the same structure of the ink tank 7' in Fig. 19, showing the positional relation between these ink tanks and the optical unit 14.

The paragraph beginning at line 16 of page 56 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 22 is a cross-sectional view showing the bottom of the ink tank 7 cut along a line ~~A-A'~~ XXII-XXII in Fig. 21.

The paragraph beginning at line 24 of page 56 through line 2 of page 57 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 23 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~B-B'~~ XXIII-XXIII in Fig. 22 and its peripheral portion. Fig. 24 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~C-C'~~ XXIV-XXIV in Fig. 22 and its peripheral portion.

The paragraph beginning at line 5 of page 58 has been amended as follows:

Note that in the above-described embodiment, the ink introduction grooves are provided around the prism to improve water repellency on the slope of the prism, however, the present invention is not limited to this arrangement. For example, as shown in Figs. 25 and 26, ink introduction grooves 183 and 184 may be provided on both ends of the two slopes of the prism 180. Fig. 25 is a cross-sectional view showing the bottom of the ink tank 7, cut along the line ~~A-A'~~ XXII-XXII in Fig. 21. Fig. 26 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~B2-B2'~~ XXVI-XXVI in Fig. 25 and its peripheral portion.

The paragraph beginning at line 22 of page 58 through line 2 of page 59 has been amended as follows:

Further, as shown in Figs. 27 and 28, ridges 190 and 191 may be provided on both ends of the slope of the prism 180. Fig. 27 is a cross-sectional view showing the bottom of the ink tank 7, cut along the line ~~A-A'~~ XXII-XXII in Fig. 21. Fig. 28 is a cross-sectional view of the prism 180 cut along a line ~~B3-B3'~~ XXVIII-XXVIII in Fig. 27 and its peripheral portion.